NUMB. CCXXII.

The SPECTATOR.

Cur alter fratrum ceſſare, & ludere, & ungi,
Præferat Herodis palmetis pinguibus ___ Hor.

Wedneſday, November 14. 1711.

Mr. SPECTATOR,

'THERE is one thing I have often look-
'ed for in your Papers, and have
'as often wonder'd to find my ſelf
'diſappointed; the rather, becauſe
think it a Subject every Way agreeable to your
n, and by being left unattempted by others
reſerv'd as a proper Employment for you:
an a Diſquiſition, from whence it proceeds,
Men of the brighteſt Parts and moſt com-
henſive Genius, compleatly furniſhed with
lents for any Province in humane Affairs;
as by their wiſe Leſſons of Oeconomy to o-
s have made it evident, that they have the
eſt Notions of Life and of true Senſe in the
Conduct of it——; from what unhappy contra-
ious Cauſe it proceeds, that Perſons thus fi-
ed by Nature and by Art ſhould ſo often fail
the Management of that which they ſo well
derſtand, and want the Addreſs to make a right
plication of their own Rules. This is certain-
a prodigious Inconſiſtency in Behaviour, and
kes much ſuch a Figure in Morals as a mon-
rous Birth in Naturals, with this Difference only,
hich greatly aggravates the Wonder, that it
ppens much more frequently; and what a
miſh does it caſt upon Wit and Learning in
general Account of the World? and in how
diſadvantageous a Light does it expoſe them
the buſy Claſs of Mankind, that there ſhould
ſo many Inſtances of Perſons who have ſo con-
ducted their Lives in ſpite of theſe tranſcendent
vantages, as neither to be happy in themſelves
eful to their Friends; when every Body ſees
was intirely in their own Power to be eminent
both theſe Characters? For my Part, I think
there is no Reflexion more aſtoniſhing, than to
conſider one of theſe Gentlemen ſpending a fair
Fortune, running in every Body's Debt without
the leaſt Apprehenſion of a future Reckoning,
and at laſt leaving not only his own Children, but
poſſibly thoſe of other People, by his Means in
'ſtarving Circumſtances; while a Fellow whom
'one would ſcarce ſuſpect to have a humane Soul,
'ſhall perhaps raiſe a vaſt Eſtate out of nothing,
'and be the Founder of a Family capable of being
'very conſiderable in their Country, and doing
'many illuſtrious Services to it: That this Obſer-
'vation is juſt, Experience has put beyond all Diſ-
'pute. But though the Fact be ſo evident and
'glaring, yet the Cauſes of it are ſtill in the dark;
'which makes me perſwade my ſelf that it would
'be no unacceptable Piece of Entertainment to the
'Town, to inquire into the hidden Sources of ſo
'unaccountable an Evil.

I am,
SIR,
Your moſt humble Servant.

What this Correſpondent wonders at, has been Matter of Admiration ever ſince there was any ſuch thing as humane Life. *Horace* reflects upon this Inconſiſtency very agreeably in the Character of *Tigellius*, whom he makes a mighty Pretender to Oeconomy, and tells you, you might one Day hear him ſpeak the moſt philoſophick things imaginable concerning being contented with a Little, and his Contempt of every thing but mere Neceſſaries, and in Half a Week after ſpend a thouſand Pound. When he ſays this of him with Relation to Expence, he deſcribes him as unequal to himſelf in every other Circumſtance of Life. And indeed if we conſider laviſh Men carefully, we ſhall find it always proceeds from a certain Incapacity of poſſeſſing themſelves, and finding Enjoyment in their own Minds. Mr. *Dryden* has expreſſed this very excellently in the Character of *Zimri*.

A Man ſo various, that he ſeem'd to be
Not one, but all Mankind's Epitome.
Stiff in Opinion, always in the Wrong,
Was every thing by Starts, and nothing long;
But in the Courſe of one revolving Moon,
Was Chymiſt, Fidler, Stateſman, and Buffoon.

Then

Hats all for Women, Painting, Rhiming, Drinking,
Besides ten thousand Freaks that dy'd in thinking.
Blest Mad-man, who could every Hour employ,
In something new to wish or to enjoy!
In squandering Wealth was his peculiar Art,
Nothing went unrewarded but Desert.

This loose State of the Soul hurries the Extravagant from one Pursuit to another; and the Reason that his Expences are greater than another's, is, that his Wants are also more numerous. But what makes so many go on in this Way to their Lives End, is, that they certainly do not know how contemptible they are in the Eyes of the rest of Mankind, or rather, that indeed they are not so contemptible as they deserve. *Tully* says it is the greatest of Wickedness to lessen your paternal Estate: And if a Man would thoroughly consider how much worse than Banishment it must be to his Child to ride by the Estate which should have been his had it not been for his Father's Injustice to him, he would be smitten with the Reflection more deeply than can be understood by any but one who is a Father. Sure there can be nothing more afflicting, than to think it had been happier for his Son to have been born of any other Man living than himself.

It is not perhaps much thought of, but it is certainly a very important Lesson to learn how to enjoy ordinary Life, and to be able to relish your Being without the Transport of some Passion or Gratification of some Appetite. For want of this Capacity the World is filled with Whetters, Tipplers, Cutters, Sippers, and all the numerous Train of those who for want of Thinking are forced to be ever exercising their Feeling or Tasting. It would be hard on this Occasion to mention the harmless Smokers of Tobacco and Takers of Snuff.

The slower Part of Mankind, whom my Correspondent wonders should get Estates, are the more immediately formed for that Pursuit: They can expect distant things without Impatience, because they are not carried out of their Way either by violent Passion, or keen Appetite to any thing. To Men addicted to Delight, Business is an Interruption; to such as are cold to Delights, Business is an Entertainment. For which Reason it was said by one who commended a dull Man for his Application, *No Thanks to him; if he had no Business, he would have nothing to do.*

Never acted but twice.

By Her Majesty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, to Morrow, being Thursday, the 14th of November, will be presented a new Comedy call'd, The Wife's Relief; or, The Husband's Cure. The whole Play being new dress'd.

AT the Queen's Theatre in the Hay-Market, this present Wednesday, being the 14th of November, will be perform'd an Opera call'd, Almahide. The Part of Almanzor to be performed by Mrs. Barbier. Boxes 8 s. Pit 5 s. first Gallery 2 s. 6. Upper Gallery 1 s. 6. the two Benches in the Pit to be railed in at the Price of the Boxes. No Person to be admitted without Tickets. To begin exactly at six.

Teas sold by Wholesale or Retail: Any is free to taste that wants a Quantity. The finest of Brazil Snuff at 35 s. Portugal 16 s. and 20 s. Barcellona 12 s. Plain Amazon at 6 s. with Allowance to those that take a Pot of 30 Pound. By Richard Tate, Druggist, at the Star against York-Buildings in the Strand.

Whereas it was advertised in this Paper on Monday and Tuesday last, that there would be a Sale of 50 Bags of Ceylon Nutts at the Marine Coffee-house on Friday the 16th Instant. This is to give Notice that the Sale is adjourned till further Notice.

At the Mountain Wine-Cellar under the Royal South Sea Coffee house in Broad-street, is sold by retail exceeding Mountain & Alga Wine at 6 s. 8d. per Gallon or 1 s. 9d. per Quart, and Red Viana Wine at 13d. per Bottle. Such Persons as take Five Gallons shall pay but 12 s. there being 13 Bottles, warranted of the best and pure from the Grape.

Wines to be sold by Retail.

Excellent Red and White Port, and Red and White Lisbon, being neat Wines as they came from the Grape, of the best Growth in Portugal. To be sold by the Importer in a Vault in Brabant-Court in Philpot-Lane, viz. Red and White Port at 5 s. per Gallon, or 14 l. per Hhd. Red and White Lisbon at 5 s. 6d. per Gallon, or 16 l. per Hhd. Attendance will be given every Day till 6 at Night.

GOWNS for Men and Women, from 7 l. to 13 l. The Silks, Satins, and Callicoes they are made of are bought of Persons that broke, and can be sold much cheaper than any Shopkeeper can afford. N. B. Several do pretend under the same Notion to vend Goods, but the best Choice and great Pennyworths are only to be bought at the golden Sugar Loaf right against the Horse in Charing-Cross, the Prices being fix'd. All sorts of Satin, Persian quilted Petticoats, Canvis and matted Petticoats for Ladies.

Lately Publish'd,

An impartial View of the two late Parliaments, their Proceedings, and the late Ministry fully justify'd: Together with the Affairs of Convocation; wherein the irregularities of the Lower-House are expos'd from their Original to this present Time, and a fair Comparison offer'd at between the late P——ts and the last Session. Sold by J. Baker in Pater-noster-row.

There is lately publish'd,

An Index to Interest: Shewing, 1. The Simple Interest at once, to the Fraction of a Farthing, for any Number of Days in the Year, and thence annually to 20 Years; the largest for many thousand Numbers, the easiest to be understood, and the most useful extant. 2. A Table of Discount to 365 Days. 3. Tables shewing the present Worth of Annuities and Reversions in plain Pounds, Shillings, Pence, and Farthings, by Inspection. 4. The most exact and easy Table yet publish'd, for the Valuation of Leases of Church or College Lands. 5. Tables of Compound Interest, shewing for 51 Years the Amount and present Worth of any Sum or Annuity, and Rules to apply them for 122 Years. 6. How to calculate and examine these Tables by Vulgar, Decimal, and Algebraical Arithmetick and Simple Interest, also by Practice. 7. Rules for the Variation of 1, 2, and 3 Lives. 8. A new invented Circle, shewing the Days contained between any 2 in the Year. Very useful for most Gentlemen, Lawyers, Merchants, Scrivners, &c. By E. Hatton, Author of the Merchant's Magazine, Comes Commercii, &c. Sold by Mr. Harper, Mr. Brown, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Tooke, Mr. Goodwin, Mr. Mount, Mr. Sprint, Mr. Vincent, Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. Strahan, Mr. Holland, and Mr. Gouge, and by other Booksellers.

That most excellent Medicine prepared by Mr. Perronet, Surgeon, for Children in the hard breeding of their Teeth, having been used upon my Child, violently afflicted from the same Cause; the Benefit it received from it being so sensible that I cannot but recommend it to the Publick as a most safe and certain Help in those dangerous Cases. Witness my Hand G. Child, Writing-Master in Hart street, Bloomsbury. The said Remedy is sold at 2 s. 6d. per Vial, at the Author's House in Dyot-street near Bloomsbury, Mr. Alcraft at the Blue-Coat Boy against the Royal Exchange, Mr. Lillie, Perfumer, next Beauford-Building in the Strand; and by Mr. Watkins, Tobacconist, against the Mahogany in King-street, Westminster.

Nectar Ambrosia: As rich a Cordial Dram as any in England, and judged to be so by Persons of the nicest Palates, at many eminent Coffee-houses and Publick-houses in Town and Country, in 2 d. Glasses. Wholesale at a Cellar under the Sign of the Trinity-House in Finch-Lane, in Cornhil, by the Gallon or Quart. Those that have it not yet, directing a Letter thither for A. Cathorn (if in or about Town) shall be brought to them, if from the Country shall be carefully put up and sent to the Carrier. In the said Place are 2 s. Bottles for Ladies Closets, (fit for any Quart) or for Gentlemen who Ride out or Travel by Coach, Waggon. Some considerable Quantity has been disposed of that way at 10 s. Quart. There is not one drop of Malt Spirits in it, which most of the common Waters are made of, but prepared with Brandy.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*: where Advertisements are taken in; as also by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.